

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Masatoshi ITO, et al.  
SERIAL NO. : (Div. of 09/684,422) GROUP ART UNIT: 3618  
FILED : (Herewith) EXAMINER: C. Bottorff  
FOR : HYBRID DRIVE SYSTEM WHEREIN CLUTCH IS ENGAGED  
WHEN ENGINE SPEED HAS EXCEEDED MOTOR SPEED  
UPON SWITCHING FROM MOTOR DRIVE MODE TO ENGINE  
DRIVE MODE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-identified continuation application, please enter the following amendment: